Meier 'Bug' Probe Ordered

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Government attorneys have agreed to determine whether telephone conversations between former Hughes Tool Co. adviser John Meier and President Nixon's brother, Donald, were monitored.

Meier was indicted here Aug. 9 on two counts of income tax violations. The government said he failed to report an income of some $269,000 for 1968 and 1969, the same years the defendant was responsible for acquiring extensive mining holdings for Howard Hughes in Nevada.

Meier's defense attorneys described the defendant and Donald Nixon as associates. The day prior to Meier's arraignment in federal court, the Washington Post reported Nixon ordered the secret service to tap his brother's telephone in previous years. The Post said the taps were ordered because the President feared embarrassment because of his brother's financial dealings.

U. S. Attorney Devoe Heaton said it was Meier's right to know whether any of his conversations were monitored.